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TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE.

A Township Ordinance Introduced.

The Fire Alarm Co. Making Haste

Showly—Various Township Matters

Looked After.

The meeting of the Township Committee last Monday night was a very busy one, numerous papers of public importance coming up for consideration. A principal one was the Electric Fire Alarm.

The apparent delay in getting the system into operation had given rise to considerable impatience among the members, and a movement was about to be adopted if possible just where the fault lay. With

the view Mr. Scovill, the President of the Gamewell Company, was present at the meeting by invitation. Mr. Scovill said that he was not familiar with the subsequent proceedings relating to the contract between his Company and the Township, as the business had been conducted by their agent, Mr. Torrey. The necessary apparatus, he said, was in process of construction and nearly ready for putting up. The Company was not disposed to shirk any responsibility on its part in carrying out the contract. They were ready to go ahead if the Committee would, so, and not wait for the Telephone Company. Mr. Scovill expressed surprise that the Town Committee had entered into a contract for a fire alarm, when they had no power to give right of way through the streets.

Committeeman Halpin informed him that Chairman Ward had distinctly told Mr. Torrey at the time the contract was made that the town officials had no authority over the matter of placing poles in front of private property. Mr. Halpin also stated that this question of the erection of poles had been the cause of all the delay in the fire alarm business. It was their agent who asked permission for the erection of telephone poles.

Committeeman Richards reviewed the whole matter from the beginning and also reported on the Ordinance permitting the New York and New Jersey Telephone Company to erect and maintain poles and wires in certain streets in this town. The Council favored the introduction of the Ordinance. The Telephone Company could if they desired get right of way by certain legal processes and their poles could then be erected, causing a double set of poles in the streets.

Committeeman Hayner regretted the delay in getting the alarm into operation.

Committeeman Gilbert asked him to what he attributed the delay.

Mr. Hayner replied that he considered the Fire Alarm Company in the fault. If they were not familiar with the law on the subject they had opportunity to become so. Mr. Hayner favored the speedy disposal of the matter, and with this end in view moved that the ordinance be introduced and be made the subject of a special meeting next Monday night and then passed at a following meeting, by this means he thought the fire alarm could be got in operation in about two weeks.

The motion was carried and the Fire Committee were given privilege to enter into arrangements with the Fire Alarm Company for the extension of the time for the completion of the contract.

Ex-Frederick William Cadmus was heard from in a manner that convinced the Committee that the members of the Township Committee were not the only ones interested in public work in the town. His performance, in a letter of considerable length, Mr. Cadmus had to say, had been the cause of a great deal of trouble some of the "botch work" of previous Committees received the attention due to him. Among the "botches" pointed out by Mr. Cadmus was the curbing of Beach street at the Park crossing, the crosswalk at the corner of Park avenue and Broad street and the one in front of Mr. Coffey's store at Broad street and Bellevue avenue. As crosswalks seemed to be the bane of complaint in the letter, it was referred to the Crosswalk Committee.

The F. N. Moffat Publishing Company's bill off 200 for making a map for free postal delivery purposes was paid. Mr. Moffat was asked why the street names had not been put on the lamp posts as per agreement. He said the delay was due to an accident, the factory where the plates were made having been destroyed by fire. He said that the work would be done by July 15th.

The Road Committee reported on the cost of bridging the Bloomfield avenue gutter at the Centre after the plan adopted by the Street Railway Company. N. H. Dodd offered to do the job, 95 feet in all, for \$10. Patrick Donnelly's bid was \$40 per linear foot. E. D. Ackerman offered to build a compost at the fountain for \$15 and put in the necessary drainage for \$17.

A communication from Mr. Thomas Oakes called attention to the fact that the retaining walls built by Contractor Floris at the Bellevue avenue bridge were about 10 inches too low. The Side-

walk Committee stated that Mr. Floris had agreed to raise the walls. This Committee was directed to have wooden guard rails built along the walls.

The Sidewalk Committee reported adversely on the request of the trustees of the First Presbyterian Church asking the reconsideration of the resolution relating to the part assumed by the town in the use of flag stone sidewalks.

Post Office Company No. 1, notified the Committee of the election of John H. Lockwood as assistant foreman of the Company in place of Bernard Higgins, resigned.

Mr. Ingalls and other residents of upper Bloomfield avenue asked for grass and water in that locality. The Company responded by the conclusion of the exercises on the Park avenue line of march was referred to the proper Committee.

An oversight or serious mistake on the part of the Township Committee of last year in connection with the building of the sewer from Bloomfield avenue opposite Liberty street to Tony's brook, is causing considerable trouble for the present Committee. Right of way for the sewer was purchased by the town through the Ward property, and to accommodate the town the Consolidated Pin Co. allowed the sewer to run through their property. The arrangement with the Pin Company was of an indefinite character, and is at present a cause of dispute between them and the town.

After the sewer had been completed at the expense of over seven hundred dollars, it occurred to the Town Committee that he would be prudent to have the Pin Company give the Committee an assurance in writing that the right of way through their property was vested in the township in perpetuity. The Township Council was instructed to take the steps to procure an agreement from the company.

The Pin Company had no intention of allowing the control of their property to go out of their hands when they yielded to the request of the Township Committee for right of way for the sewer.

Frank J. Cheney, a resident of Toledo, Ohio, and a member of the Toledo Fire Department, has been called to take charge of the fire department at the start of the public and private fire lines. He is to be assisted by Captain Gilmore, who has been a member of the Toledo Fire Department for thirty years.

Frank J. Cheney & Co., Toledo.

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